

(Five trillion, three hundred sixty-three billion, three hundred seven million).

Five years ago, March 17, 1993, the Federal debt stood at \$4,214,956,000,000 (Four trillion, two hundred fourteen billion, nine hundred fifty-six million).

Ten years ago, March 17, 1988, the Federal debt stood at \$2,482,751,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred eighty-two billion, seven hundred fifty-one million).

Fifteen years ago, March 17, 1983, the Federal debt stood at \$1,227,720,000,000 (One trillion, two hundred twenty-seven billion, seven hundred twenty million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4, (Four trillion, three hundred and eight billion, nine hundred forty-three million, seven hundred twenty-three thousand, four hundred eighty-three dollars and twenty-four cents) during the past 15 years.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today to recognize March as "Women's History Month." It is appropriate that, at this time, we credit the countless women who have contributed so much to our society. In particular, I would like to draw attention to some of the women who have helped to shape the history of Utah.

From its beginnings, Utah has relied heavily on the strength of women. The first groups of American settlers that crossed the continent to establish their homes in what is now Utah consisted of both men and women. Besides the simple rigors of walking hundreds of miles across the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, these courageous pioneer women braved many trials such as extreme winter cold, lack of provisions, and the death of loved ones. They struggled to provide for the basic needs of their families. Sadly, many women had to witness the burial of their children and husbands along the way. Upon arriving in the valleys of the mountains, these pioneer women toiled along with the men to establish farms, schools, businesses, and towns. Their hard work, and dedication are reflected in the character of our State even today.

Politically, Utah was a leader in recognizing the rights of women, and involving them in the process of government. Much has and will be said of the valiant efforts of women's suffrage activists such as Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Carrie Chapman Catt. This group of national heroes includes a Utahn by the name of Emmeline Wells. As an advocate for women's rights, Mrs. Wells worked to achieve a political voice for Utah women. She won her first battle in 1870, when the territorial legislature legally gave Utah women the right to vote.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Congress stripped Utah women of their voting rights in 1887. Undaunted, Mrs. Wells and others formed the Woman Suffrage

Association of Utah, the purpose of which was to reclaim their voting rights. These women finally succeeded in 1896, when Utah was admitted into the Union as a State with a constitution providing female suffrage. Emmeline Wells remained an active member of the Woman's Republican League and the National Suffrage Association, and kept up the suffrage campaign on the national level.

I am proud to say that Utah was ahead of its time in this respect. By the end of 1896, only Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado recognized women's right to vote. No other States granted this right for another 14 years. Later in 1896, the people of Utah elected Martha Hughes Cannon to be their first female state senator. And, proving that the past is prologue, women continue to play significant, influential leadership roles in our State. In 1991, Deedee Corradini was elected mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah's largest city and the seat of State government. In 1992, Olene Walker was elected Utah's Lieutenant Governor, and two recent members of Utah's delegation to the U.S. Congress have been women.

Women have also added much to Utah's cultural heritage. A prime example is Alice Merrill Horne. She was an educator and prolific artist at the turn of the century. As a twenty-three year old in 1891, Alice was appointed chairperson of the Utah Liberal Arts Committee for the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. She published a book of poems composed by women for the exposition.

Alice Merrill Horne became the second woman elected to the Utah House of Representatives in 1898. As an elected official, she continued to encourage cultural development. She moved a bill for the State to create the Nation's first art institute, which would encourage the fine arts, hold an annual art exhibition, and start a state-owned art collection. As a memorial to her, the state collection bears her name.

Today's women continue the tradition of Mrs. Horne. In 1997, the Women's Center Advisory Board at Utah State University named a number of recipients of the Women Over 65 Achievement Awards. Among them was Ruth Call. Ruth became director of the Unicorn Theater in 1957. In this capacity she has brought beauty and happiness into the lives of children in Cache Valley by allowing them to participate in the performing arts. Since 1957, she has continued to influence children's lives through the theater, as a Girl Scout leader, and by her involvement in local art groups. Ruth Call is only one of the many modern unsung heroes who quietly enrich the lives of many.

Ever since Utah's earliest periods, women have contributed in many ways in the professional sector. Patty Sessions was a pioneer midwife and horticulturist who developed her own strain of plums. Singer Emma Lucy Gates founded an opera company. Before her election to the state senate, Martha

Hughes Cannon was a very successful medical doctor.

Now more than ever, women are an integral part of the State's business sector. According to the National Foundation for Women Business Owners, between 1987 and 1996, the number of women-owned firms along Utah's Wasatch Front increased by 87 percent. Thus, Utah is among the top 10 states in the Nation for growth of women-owned firms. The NFWBO also said that women-owned companies represent 38 percent of all businesses in the area, employ 21 percent of all workers, and generate 24 percent of all sales.

This is an exciting time for women's athletics as well. On the heels of Olympic gold medals for our teams in both the Summer and Winter Games, women's soccer, softball, basketball, and hockey have found a new popularity in the United States. This is combined with gold medals in more traditionally popular sports like figure skating, track and field, and gymnastics to showcase the athletic talent that abounds among our women. My State is very proud to be home to the Utah Starzz, one of the teams in the new Women's National Basketball Association. I'm a big fan.

We are also very proud of the many female college athletes in our universities. Several of my State's college teams have achieved great success. In particular, I want to draw attention to one native Utahn who is leaving her mark on history.

As a junior on the Brigham Young University track and field team, Tiffany Lott made 1997 a banner year. Set the world record in the 55-meter hurdles by running 7.30 seconds at the Western Athletic Conference indoor championships. This eclipsed the eight-year-old record previously held by the great Jackie Joyner Kersee. Tiffany also won the heptathlon at the NCAA Championships. En route to her victory, she scored the third-highest point total in the history of the women's pentathlon. These feats, among others, led Track & Field News magazine to name Tiffany Lott the female college athlete of the year.

I have only touched on some of the many important achievements of Utah's women throughout our history. However, I cannot begin to give enough credit to the women who have added the most to our civilization, those who have influenced each one of us in some way. I wish to salute the countless women who have borne, nurtured, raised, instructed, and loved their children. I cannot think of a more important responsibility than that of a mother. Ironically, those who have had the greatest impact on us as a people are also those who receive the least public recognition.

I invite my colleagues to join in celebrating Women's History Month by recognizing all that women have contributed to this Nation in both large and small ways. Much of the progress of America is owed to the perseverance, ingenuity, and dedication of women.